

## SCENIC MINUTES – 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024

### AGENDA

1. **Present: Cllrs Castro (JC), Alesi (MA), Sharp (Chair) (AHS) and Martin (AM)**  
**Apologies: Cllr Riordan**
2. **Minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true reflection**
3. **Matters Arising from those minutes:**
  - Use of disabled toilet at the Parade for SEHT storage: as this will take some time to implement, discussion followed on possible use of one of the air raid sections as a temporary measure, if it was emptied/cleared.  
**ACTION: AHS to ask Clerk if this is a possibility**
4. **Youth Club Building**
  - No further news re shared Youth Worker provision. Lottie Parfitt-Reid is trying to expedite matters
  - All JC's questions relating to how new pilot will work were answered via email.
  - Plumbing issue in men's toilet re cupboard within, which is used for storage. In this space there is a sink, but no pipework underneath. Therefore, taps need to be capped to eliminate water spillage.
  - It has been discussed with the Clerk re lagging for pipes. MA suggests purchasing frost heaters instead, which have proved effective at the KLC and work on a timer.  
**ACTION: AHS to advise Clerk.**
  - **BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR 2025/6: £8K YC + £1K maintenance + DBS checks (free for volunteers) + £4K for a summer event organised by the YC.**
  - **ACTION: Men's Shed to be asked to repair wooden bridge. Materials to be costed and purchased.**
  - **The group is very appreciative of all the hard work the Men's Shed has provided. The YC building is looking very smart.**
5. **Christmas Lights**
  - AHS has struck a cost-effective deal with the motif company and as a result has been able to purchase 11 new lights
  - Cllr Perry has indicated that he can secure a free 15ft tree via MBC. Discussion re who could install it. Noted: it may need planning permission/special safety measures.  
**ACTION: JC to ask advice from Cllr Riordan and Neil.**
  - **BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR 2025/6: £5K**
6. **Surrenden Field Update**
  - Pre planning advice to be sought from MBC, then to put in planning application for demolition of existing derelict pavilion and installation of replacement as per preferred design and contractor, subject to final agreement from full council.
  - **£26K has been ring fenced for this project.**
  - SCEG has indicated that they will need alternative accommodation for their equipment currently being stored in the old pavilion. It is noted that the state of disrepair of the current building is likely to mean that it will fail an imminent risk assessment and consequently be rendered off-limits. It is suggested that SCEG be offered space in the spare shed behind the Youth Club and that they are notified that they have until January 19<sup>th</sup> 2025 to move items. After this date, the items will be disposed of.

**ACTION: AHS/Clerk to notify.**

- Maintenance has been completed on the outdoor gym equipment and the children's playground.

#### **7. Phone Box Defibrillator Update**

**ACTION: AM to ask PR about the backdrop photos and installation**

#### **8. Disabled Toilet at Parade**

- Still awaiting confirmation from KCC re permission to re-open. LPR to chase legal department. **ACTION: AHS to remind LPR.**
- **ACTION: Research to be undertaken by group to see if there are any grants available to fund.**
- **BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR 2025/6: £5K**

#### **9. Display Boards Around Village – New Project**

- AHS provided sample photographs of suitable display boards/blue plaques. The boards would cost around £1K each (£700 + artwork + installation.) These would provide historical data/information for visitors and residents alike. (A board at Jubilee Field/Skatepark could provide safety measures for users)
- Possible sites considered.
- **ACTION: The group will research and collate type of boards, what information they might contain and suitable sites. Ideas to be forwarded to AHS**
- **ACTION: AM to contact the Historical Society (Margaret Arger) and All Saints PCC (Val Wallis) to gauge their level of interest to support idea.**
- **BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR 2025/6: £3K to £5K (via a rolling programme)**

#### **10. Risk Assessments**

- Discussion as to whether this group has sufficient expertise/training to carry out certain risk assessments as prescribed by the Clerk ie Bell Lane Toilets and Surrenden Pavilion. **Therefore, we would like to delegate these to the Clerk.**
- Risk assessments have been completed for the Youth Club and Jubilee Field.
- **ACTION: JC to send MA a digitised copy of the YC risk assessment.**

#### **11. Terms of Reference**

- Re Scenic Terms of Reference – discussion as to whether some of the scope within the Scenic T of R should be reconsidered.
- For example, the Churchyard would be better managed under EFS responsibilities, the Skatepark under JFWG and Allotments under the Office.
- We feel that, once it is up and running again, the Youth Club would need a dedicated Youth Services Group to oversee its management.
- Risk assessments don't appear to be part of Scenic T of R.

#### **12. Budget request for 2025/6**

- **In Total: £28K as described above, plus £26K CIL already ring fenced for new pavilion at Surrenden Field.**

#### **13. Community Assets Update**

- Forms have been completed in draft. These now need to be submitted. **ACTION: Clerk**

**14. AOB**

- Re Wimpey Field: Up until now, Wimpey Field has not been part of SCENIC's remit and in the past, the Greener Staplehurst group has made all the decisions appertaining to it. We would like to recommend that Medway Valley's contract is renewed, as they are doing an outstanding job at a very reasonable cost.

**15. Next SCENIC meeting dates are: 4<sup>th</sup> Dec and 8<sup>th</sup> January**